

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01847 300815Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 ONY-00 SSO-00 /014 W
-----109604 300818Z /12-46R

O R 291424Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3465
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CSCE, CVIS, AGEN, BU, US
SUBJECT: IMPACT OF NEW TARIFF OF VISA FEES ON US/BULGARIAN
NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING REDUCTION OF VISA FEES

REF: A) STATE 203357 NOTAL; B) SOFIA 1470; C) STATE A-2628;
D) 76 SOFIA 2201; E) STATE 158630

1. EMBASSY IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW TARIFF OF VISA FEES SEPTEMBER 1 (REFS C AND E), WITHOUT COINCIDENT OR PREVIOUS PRESENTATION TO GOB OF COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL ON RECIPROCAL ELIMINATION OF VISA FEES AND ASSOCIATED COSTS (REF A) MAY PLACE US IN DIFFICULT POSITION, SUBJECT TO SHARP ATTACK BY BULGARIANS, BILATERALLY AND AT BELGRADE CSCE MEETING.

2. DEPARTMENT IS CORRECT IN ASSUMING THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO MAKE THREE OTHER PROPOSALS IN PACKAGE TMQGOB WITHOUT AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE ELIMINATION OF ASSOCIATED VISA COSTS, SINCE GOB HAS MADE CLEAR IN PAST THAT MONEY IS GOOD PART OF GAME FOR IT. (SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, REF D.)

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01847 300815Z

3. AT SAME TIME, BALL IS IN OUR COURT IN DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER, AND FOR US TO UNILATERALLY RAISE FEES AT THIS TIME, WITHOUT HAVING MADE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL, WILL BE CONSIDERED BY GOB TO BE ACT IN BAD FAITH, IN- CONSISTENT WITH SPIRIT OF ONGOING BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS TO REMOVE SUCH FEES, AND WILL PRESENT A VERY FAT TARGET INDEED AT UPCOMING BELGRADE MEETINGS.

4. EMBASSY THUS URGES DEPT TO CONTINUE
EFFORTS TO GIVE US COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE TO PROPOSE TO
GOB PRIOR TO OCTOBER OPENING OF BELGRADE MEETINGS, AS
PROMISED REF A.

5. IN NEAR TERM, EMBASSY REQUESTS GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER
DEPT MIGHT GRANT US AUTHORITY
TO CONTINUE CHARGING VISA FEES AT PRESENT, PRE-SEPT 1
RATE, IN LIGHT OF EXISTENCE OF ONGOING BILATERAL NEGOTIA-
TIONS REGARDING MATTER, AT LEAST UNTIL WE HAVE PRESENTED
COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE AND GOB HAS HAD REASONABLE AMOUNT
OF TIME TO STUDY AND RESPOND TO PROPOSAL.

6. REQUEST RESPONSE TO PARA 5 PRIOR TO SEPT 1.
MAGEE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 22 May 2009
Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SOFIA01847
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770351-1158, D770311-0982
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770812/aaaaajqi.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a2f05751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 77 STATE 203357, 77 SOFIA 1470, 77 STATE A-2628
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1448058
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMPACT OF NEW TARIFF OF VISA FEES ON US/BULGARIAN NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING REDUCTION OF VISA FEES
TAGS: CVIS, OGEN, BU, US, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a2f05751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009